

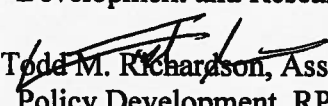


U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT
WASHINGTON, DC 20410-5000

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR
POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND RESEARCH

MAR 4 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR: Katherine M. O'Regan, Assistant Secretary for Policy
Development and Research, R

FROM:  Todd M. Richardson, Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Policy Development, RP

SUBJECT: Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact
under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for Fiscal
Year 2015 Notice of Funding Availability for Research and
Evaluation, Demonstration and Data Analysis and Utilization
(FR-5900-N-29)

It is the finding of this office that the subject Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) does not constitute a major federal action having an individually or cumulatively significant effect on the physical/human environment and, therefore, does not require the preparation of an environmental impact statement.

This NOFA announces the availability of Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 funds and provides program information and application instructions for Research and Evaluation, Demonstration, and Data Analysis and Utilization (HUDRD). This is a NOFA of up to \$500,000.00 in FY 2015 funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for research and evaluations. Research and evaluation projects examine current HUD programs to provide information to improve them through activities such as designing research and developing work plans, data collection, and data analysis. The awards will be managed by HUD's Office of Policy Development and Research.

The HUDRD program is authorized by the FY15 Appropriations Act.

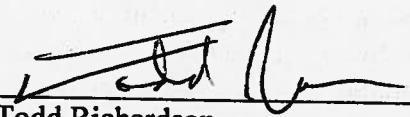
This NOFA does not direct or provide loans or mortgage insurance for real property acquisition, disposition, rehabilitation, alteration, demolition, or new construction, or establish, revise or provide for standards for construction or construction materials, manufactured housing, or occupancy. Lease or rental of office space for HUDRD activities is an eligible use of administrative funds, but only under the following conditions:

- (1) The lease must be for existing facilities not requiring rehabilitation or construction except for minimal alterations to make the facilities accessible for a person with disabilities;
- (2) No repairs or renovations of the property may be undertaken with HUDRD funds; and
- (3) Properties in the Coastal Barrier Resources System designated under the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (16 U.S.C. 3501) cannot be leased or rented with federal funds.

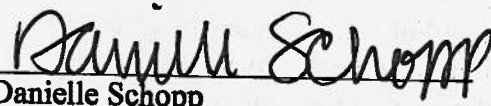
In accordance with 24 CFR 50.19(b)(1), (b)(2), (b)(3), and (b)(5), all activities assisted under this NOFA are categorically excluded from review under the National Environmental Policy Act and are not subject to environmental review under the related laws and authorities.

Accordingly, the Office of Policy Development and Research finds the issuance of this NOFA will not create any significant environmental impacts and will not result in significant impacts on the physical/human environment. Therefore, a Finding of No Significant Impact is hereby made.

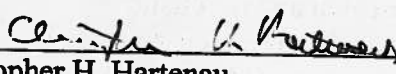
Concurrences:


Todd Richardson
Associate Deputy Assistant Secretary
Office of Policy Development and Research

Date: 2/26/2016

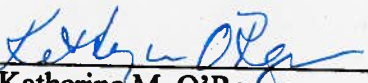

Danielle Schopp
Departmental Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of Environment and Energy, CPD

Date: 3/10/2016


Christopher H. Hartenau
Environmental Clearance Officer
Office of General Counsel

Date: 3/18/16

Approval:


Katherine M. O'Regan
Assistant Secretary
Office of Policy Development and Research

Date: 3/15/16